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Cologne, Jan. 27.

FRom *Ratisbonne* we have an account, that the States Assembled there, had prohibited the raising of Men in the Empire for Forreign Service; and that complaint had been made to the Dyet, that the French had lately possessed themselves of the Castle of *Kirne*, and had put forty Men into it; and that they had likewise formed a Pretension upon the Lordship of *Ebernbourg*, belonging to the Baron of *Sickenghen*. Our Elector has caused a Placaet to be published in the Dioceſs of *Liege*, by which he forbids all his Subjects and Vassals of that Countrey to do Homage to the French King, on pain of Confiscation of their Lands, *&c.*

Cologne, Jan. 30. We have not in several days received any Letters, occasioned by the overflowing of the *Rhine*. The Water is so high here, that one may pass over the principal streets in Boats. Here is arrived an Envoye from the Elector of *Brandenburg*.

Bremen Jan. 31. Yesterday we had here a great Flood of Water; six Dykes on the *Weser* are broken through, and the Water in the Countrey is so high, that the People are forced to remain on the tops of their Houses to save themselves.

Ostend, Jan. 30. On the 26th Instant we were here in much fear and danger, the Sea having overflowed the great Bank without the *Newport-Gate*, and carried away with it all our Outworks, with the great Half-Moon, broken down all the Draw-Bridges at the Ports, the Bridges of Communication, and the Sluyces, and entred so violently into the Town, that all People were obliged to barricado their doors, and to get into their upper Rooms. The two great Bastions have likewise been very much prejudiced. The consternation here was inexpressible, as well as the damages that have been sustained in the Countrey, where a great number of People and Cattle have been drowned. The Waters were so high and impetuous, that they passed over the Sluyce, between this place and *Bruges*, filled the Ditch of the Fort that guards that Sluyce, carried away all the Palisados, and broke down the Gates and Draw-Bridges, which obliged the Governor and Garrison to retire to one of the highest Bastions, from Three in the Afternoon till near Midnight: The Water was near seven Foot high in the Fort; it clave in sunder one of the Bastions, and had almost ruined the Fort; and hath also broken down all the Bridges, and overflowed all the Sluyces, and the Countrey about *Newport*.

Brussels, Feb. 3. We have repeated confirmations of the great Losses sustained in this Province, *Flanders, Holland*, and *Zealand*, by the late Inundations. The Island of *Tersolen* is entirely Drowned, with most of its Inhabitants, except the Village of *Scherpenes*: the like misfortune has befallen a great part of *Tergoes*, with *Princeland*, and most part of *Zierickzee*. *Zealand* has also suffered very much. *Vlissing* having been overflowed to the first stage of their Buildings, and the greatest part of the Island being under water; as is also *Cadsand*. The inundation of *Moordyke* has reached to *Breda*, and done much hurt to its Works. Some hundreds of dead Bodies are floating upon the River of *Antwerp*; and we are told, many thousands have perished in this Inundation, a thousand Persons being drowned in one Polder near *Gaunt*. The Deputies of *Antwerp* have represented to his Highness, that the Losses they have sustained, amount to some Millions, and have therefore desired his Highness to take off their Imposts and other Duties. The Water was four Foot higher then it was ever known, and near three Foot high in the Great Church. *Ostend* has suffered also very much, and both Orders and Moneys have been sent thither for the repairing the Works. From *Cologne* we have an Account, that the overflowing of the *Rhine* has done much harm there. We are told that the Quarrel between the Duke of *Norfolke* and the Seneschal of *Hainault* is renewed, his Grace having received a Challenge from the Seneschal at *Bruges*, as he was going for *England*.

Brussels Feb. 3. Every day brings us a more particular Account of the Losses sustained by the late great Floods. In *Holland* and *Zealand*, a great many Polders are quite drowned, and will not be recovered in many years. In *Flanders* the damage is inestimable: The Land of *Assenade* is irrecoverably lost, and above 1000 people drowned, none escaping of that quarter but one man only. *Dendermond* was in very great danger, and had certainly been drowned, if the great Dyke above the Water-gate had not broken, by which means the force of the Water was turned upon the Countrey. Hundreds of dead Bodies are seen daily floating down the River to *Antwerp*; and that City has suffered so much in this calamity, that it's feared it will not in many years recover the loss, and the whole Countrey between that City and *Lillo* is so overflowed, that it will require much time and cost to recover it. Their Deputies are now here, and have plainly told his Highness, that unless they be freed from all manner of Duties and Imposts, they shall never be able to set about so chargeable a Work; and we fear the Deputies of *Flanders* will speak in the same Language when they come. Yesterday arrived here an Express from *Spain*, with an Account, that the Marquis *de Grana* was Declared Governor of Arms in these Countreys. The Prince of *Chimay*, Governor of *Luxemburg*, has, we are informed, caused a strict Enquiry to be made, what Provisions are in the Place, and has found that they have enough for between two or three Months; that Place continues to be very closely blocked up.

Ter Goes, Jan. 30. The late Floods have done great damage to this City, as also to *Terveer*, *Sluys*, *Ardenburg*, and many other Places.

Vlissing, Jan. 27. Yesterday happened here a most terrible Inundation, as has not been known in the memory of Man; insomuch, that the new Town

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